FBIS DAILY REPORT

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REPORTAGE ON NINTH OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Trade Protectionism Criticized

PY251337 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0233 GMT 24 Oct 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 24 Oct (LATIN)--Several Latin American countries today strongly attacked trade protectionism and the U.S. trade law during the debates of the Economic and Social Affairs Commission which is meeting within the framework of the Ninth OAS General Assembly. The delegates severely criticized protectionist tendencies, the preferential tariff system, the U.S. trade law and the increase in the Panama Canal tolls, according to official OAS reports.

The Brazilian delegate asserted that there is a lack of proportion in the negotiating power between the United States and Latin America and that it is necessary for the U.S. Government to give up the attempts to place the interests of its small communities before those of entire populations of our region which, in some cases, can only produce one article.

The Brazilian delegate also indicated the need of structural readjustments in the continent's internal trade, terming as unacceptable the current conditions of the preferential tariff system and of the U.S. trade law.

The Chilean, Brazilian, Argentine, Uruguayan, Peruvian, Mexican, Venezuelan, Ecuadorean, Costa Rican and other delegates today expressed their negative viewpoints on the trade protectionist system imposed by the United States.

Venezuela, through its delegate, expressed that it is against any type of bilateral agreement to resolve this problem and that what is needed are negotiations with the group of Latin American countries who feel that their interests are affected by the U.S. policy.

The Bolivian delegation emphasized the inconvenience and the harm that the sale of 35,000 tons of tin, approved by the U.S. Senate, will cause to its country.

The U.S. delegate explained that the causes for the dissatisfaction which had been expressed during the day have been extensively studied by his country's government and that the appropriate solutions are being sought. He expressed his agreement regarding the idea of jointly fighting trade protectionist measures throughout the world. He explained that the sale of 35,000 tons of tin had not yet been authorized by President Carter's administration.

The Latin American nations also expressed their concern about the increase in the Panama Canal tolls, emphasizing that this measure will affect imports and exports made by their countries when using that waterway.

El Salvador Supports Bolivia

PY251500 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0258 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Text] El Salvador approves and supports the Bolivian demand for recovery of its outlet to the sea being debated during the Ninth OAS Assembly which is taking place in La Paz.

In remarks made to the press, the permanent delegate and head of the Salvadoran delegation termed as excellent the speech made by President Walter Guevara Arze regarding the 100-year-old landlocked problem at the inauguration of the Ninth OAS Assembly.

The way of outlining this problem was excellent and he did it in a nationalist style and he emphasized very well that it is not a simple aspiration, Alberque Vides said.

He also indicated that the OAS has agreed that the subject be included in its agenda and the only remaining matter is to see how it will be debated.

Colombian Solidarity With Bolivia

PY251504 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1154 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Text] The current OAS Assembly must seek some diplomatic mechanism in order to resolve Bolivia's maritime problem.

This statement was made by the Colombian foreign minister, Diego Uribe Vargas, who also reiterated his government's total support for the Bolivian cause in seeking a sovereign outlet to the Pacific Ocean.

He was firm when asserting that the national desire was fully supported not only by his country but also by the Andean Group countries and that statements of solidarity had been released on the subject.

Chile Rejects Peruvian Role

PY251546 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1148 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Text] Chilean Ambassador to the OAS Pedro Daza Valenzuela has stated that only if the solution to the Bolivian landlocked problem involves the 1929 Lima Treaty would the last stage of negotiations become tripartite with the participation of Peru.

In this regard Daza said that he disagrees with President Walter Guevara Arze who in his speech opening the OAS Assembly yesterday stated that the Bolivian landlocked problem involves the three nations who participated in the 1879 war, and affects the continent as well because the conflict had been (?caused) by European powers.

Chilean Denies Walkout Rumors

PY251548 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 1202 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Text] Denying rumors coming from Santiago, Chile, Pedro Daza, head of the Chilean delegation to Bolivia, said that "Chile will not withdraw from the deliberations" which the Organization of American States began in Bolivia yesterday.

Daza said that "my country at no time thought of abandoning the deliberations which began here," denying news reports published by the Chilean press. He repeated: "I have never made any remarks to this effect. I have not made them."

Paraguay Refutes Rights Charges

PY260032 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1831 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 25 Oct (LATIN)--In another conflict that broke out at the Ninth OAS Assembly, Paraguayan Foreign Minister Alberto Nogues today refuted Grenada's charges that his country was violating human rights.

The Paraguayan foreign minister stated today that Grenada's representative, George Louison, made an unfortunate attack against his country in his speech on human rights yesterday.

Nogues, who attributed the charges made by the Grenada representative to misinformation and hastiness, stated that there is a democratic regime in his country, as demonstrated by the free action of political parties, the branches of government, freedom of the press and a responsible government.

He noted, however, that from now on he will no longer refute charges or references about human rights in Paraguay made at the assembly because these should be made at the appropriate forum and be free of useless, negative malice.

He also discussed the Bolivian maritime situation and expressed his government's solidarity with the Bolivian cause.

Because of its own ill-fated experience, no country can be better qualified than mine to know what it is and what it means not to have a seacoast, which broadens the opportunities for communication with the outside, he said.

Paraguay and Bolivia are the only landlocked countries on the continent. He expressed his wish that the Ninth OAS Assembly would contribute to finding a dignifying solution to the problem of Bolivia, which lost its Pacific coast during a war against Chile 100 years ago.

Foreign Minister Nogues expressed his belief that the OAS assembly will promote and uphold the lofty ideals of peace.

COB Stages Demonstration

PY260047 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2319 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Text] La Paz, 25 Oct (LATIN)--Thousands of demonstrators assembled by the Bolivian Workers Central (COB) marched here today in front of the downtown hotel where the OAS General Assembly is taking place. They shouted insults against Chile and the United States.

The demonstrators were voicing support for Bolivia's Maritime Claim and protesting the projected U.S. tin sale which will severely harm Bolivia's economy.

COB sources indicated that the demonstration was initially staged to protest the tin sales, but anti-Chilean slogans related to Bolivia's landlocked situation were frequently heard.

There were even groups which shouted slogans against Argentine Alejandro Orfila, who was reelected OAS secretary general yesterday.

TREATY CREATING ANDEAN PARLIAMENT SIGNED

PY260128 La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Text] In order to reaffirm the principles of democracy, the representatives of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela today signed the treaty creating the Andean Parliament. The ceremony was held at the Bolivian Foreign Ministry.

The text of the treaty is divided into 21 articles which establish the regulations and objectives of the recently created subregional organization.

Subregional integration and the support which the five member countries provide for freedom, social justice and democracy are among the priority goals of the Andean Parliament.

The declaration of objectives also includes enforcement of human rights within the region, the encouragement of a new international economic order and of Latin American development and the strengthening of international peace and justice.

Among its powers, the Andean Parliament has the responsibility to evaluate the process of integration within the area and to maintain relations among the parliamentarians of the member countries as well as their relations with parliamentarians of other countries. The Parliament will also propose measures and suggestions aimed at seeking the alinement of the laws of the five countries of the Andean Group.

It is expected that the new organization will go into operation by the middle of next year. Initially, the Andean Parliament will be made up of five representatives from each of the member countries. It will not have permanent headquarters for the time being.

The first representatives to the Andean Parliament will be elected by the congresses of the member countries, but 10 years after the treaty becomes effective, the parliamentarians will be elected by direct universal vote.

The term in office will be 2 years, and the parliamentarians can be reelected. The post of chairman and deputy chairman will be filled by means of internal election within the Parliament.

The treaty signed today establishes that the representatives to the Parliament will meet at least once a year and will be able to hold unscheduled meetings to discuss concrete and specific issues at the request of one-third of the member countries.

The Andean Pact is blazing new historical paths, Bolivian Foreign Minister Gustavo Fernandez said today after signing the treaty.

The treaty, which is aimed at reaffirming the principles of democracy, was signed at the Foreign Ministry by Bolivian Foreign Minister Gustavo Fernandez, Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe, Peruvian Foreign Minister Carlos Garcia Bedoya, Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano and the under secretary of foreign relations of Ecuador. The ceremony was also attended by the Spanish State Secretary for Foreign Relations (Carlos Robles), who received a special invitation from the representatives of the Andean countries.

In a speech made after the signing of the treaty, Bolivia's representative said that it is the birth certificate of a new hope for the continent. Fernandez said that the recently created Parliament is an effective instrument for social and economic development of the subregion and a broad channel of expression for its just desires and projects.

Fernandez said that the Andean Parliament is designed to uphold complete freedom, social justice and democracy.

VIDELA MEETINGS WITH STROESSNER, FIGUEIREDO CONFIRMED

PY250224 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 24 Oct 79 p 3 PY

[Text] As anticipated by LA NACION in its issue of last Saturday, meetings of the Argentine and Paraguayan presidents on three occasions during the remainder of the year have been confirmed.

The spokesman for the presidential Information Secretariat also confirmed that Brazilian President Joao Baptista Figueiredo will come to Buenos Aires in March next year.

The first meeting of Presidents Videla and Stroessner will take place Sunday in Salta at the closing of the Ferinoa fair.

The second meeting will be held on 4 or 5 November for the signing of the Yacyreta Agreement.

Finally, the third meeting will take place when the Paraguayan president visits Buenos Aires in late November or early December at the invitation of the Argentine Government.

PRESIDENT TO VISIT PRC, POSSIBLY USSR IN 1980

PY252321 Paris AFP in Spanish 1941 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (AFP)--Diplomatic sources revealed here today that Argentine President Jorge Rafael Videla will visit the PRC in April 1980 and that he is currently studying the possibility of traveling to the Soviet Union in the same year.

Videla's visit to Beijing was officially announced on 15 October when he returned from his 12-day visit to Japan, but the dates for the visit had not been disclosed.

LABOR MINISTRY REPORTS SOLUTION OF SIX CONFLICTS

PY252319 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2220 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 25 Oct (NA)--The Labor Ministry reported this afternoon that six labor conflicts involving 5,380 workers have been solved and that there are still 11 left involving 3,743 workers.

BRIEFS

CONGRESS ON NUCLEAR RIGHTS--The sixth congress of the International Association for Nuclear Rights was inaugurated at the Buenos Aires stock exchange headquarters. Among the national officials and guests of honor present were Federico Luis Amadeo, secretary of the Energy Secretariat, and Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, chairman of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA). The meeting, which was organized by the International Association of Nuclear Rights and sponsored by the Energy Secretariat, the CNEA, the National Reinsurance Institute, the Greater Buenos Aires Electrical Services Company (SEGBA) and other related enterprises, will be attended by well-known international specialists. [Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Oct 79 p 6 PY]

PLO REPRESENTATIVE SEEKS DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION

PY251410 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 20 Oct 79 p 10 PY

[Text] A representative of the PLO, (?Isam Beseisso), is visiting our country in order to "try to establish diplomatic relations with Bolivia and obtain support for the Palestinian cause."

In an interview with PRESENCIA, (?Beseisso) said that the PLO has the support of most UN member-countries and that his purpose in visiting Bolivia is to try to obtain more practical support and establish an opening for mutual cooperation in the economic and political fields between the Arab world and Latin America.

"To this effect," he added, "we already have prepared a project for economic complementation which has been drafted by Arabs who live in Latin America, approved by the Arab-American Federation in Caracas and signed by Saudi Arabia, Iraq, the Arab League and the PLO.

"Ultimately, this project will be submitted to the Arab summit which will take place in Tunis on 20 November 1979.

"The project," he said, "was drafted mainly by three Latin American ministers of Arab descent, including Alejandro Halasa of Chile." [as published]

Asked about the scope of the project, (?Beseisso) said that it was a question of withdrawing all Arab funds that are in the United States and using them in Latin America because "we recognize the region's economic problems.

"This can be our instrument for achieving political support."

Referring to the OAS Assembly which will be held in our country, the PLO representative said that his presence in La Paz was due to a diplomatic strategy, "nothing is done by chance; we have studied everything."

Regarding Bolivia's maritime problem, he stated: "Bolivia's maritime cause is identical to ours--the only difference is that of time. Bolivia had its coast taken away 100 years ago and we had our territory taken away 30 years ago. We will never forget our territory as Bolivia will never forget its sea." He repeated: "It is all a question of time."

Regarding the strategy for obtaining his objectives, he said: "There are two ways to liberate Palestine--one is through permanent armed struggle, and the other is through political and diplomatic efforts."

He added that political power is lost when armed power is lost. This strategy is based on our own experience and work and from observing other countries such as Vietnam.

Finally he said that it was a pleasure for him to be in a city called La Paz, and expressed his great desire for achieving peace for the Palestinian people in accordance with the UN declaration.

MIN LEADER ON SCHISM WITHIN DEMOCRATIC POULAR UNITY

PY260217 La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Text] A schism is imminent within the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP). Journalist (Edgardo Vasquez) today interviewed Luis Sandoval Moron, leader of the National Leftist Movement [MIN] on the crisis which has occurred within the front headed by Hernan Siles Zuazo.

[Begin recording] [Vasquez] Mr Sandoval Moron, we would like to ask you, as leader of the MIN, about the report we have received that you want to withdraw from the UDP. What can you tell us about this report?

[Moron] Well, Mr Journalist, as you said this afternoon, some of the groups belonging to the UDP have made another political mistake in connection with the election for Supreme Court judges. [passage indistinct] in a really inexplicable manner, clearly showing that there is some sort of an agreement between certain UDP groups and Banzer's party. These groups have taken the side of Banzer's party to prevent a quorum in the Chamber of Deputies, thus precluding the election of the judges.

This is not something new. Recently Deputy (Alvarado) of the National Revolutionary Movement of the Left [MNRI] openly undertook Banzer's defense by trying to scuttle the suit for damages filed against him.

This attitude was not even rejected by his party; this shows that the high command of the UDP, made up of Heran Siles Zuazo and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR), continues to lead us from failure to failure.

In view of the political responsibility I have as a leader, and in view of our desire to continue with the process of democratization, we cannot tolerate these serious political errors which will end up in frustrating the Bolivian people. This attitude forces us to withdraw from the UDP, deeply lamenting that this mechanism created by the Bolivian people to further their democratization has fallen into [words indistinct].

The MIN will soon issue a communique explaining its position to the country. [end recording]

BRIEFS

NEW SIDERSA MANAGER--Bolivian Mines and Metallurgy Minister Oscar Bonifaz yesterday swore in Ruddy Soriano as the new manager of the Bolivian Iron and Steel Enterprise (SIDERSA). [La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0051 GMT 18 Oct 79 PY]

NEW SOCIAL WELFARE MINISTER--(Rene Canellas Lopez) was installed this morning as the head of the newly created Ministry of Social Welfare and Family. What had been called the Social Action Board is now the new ministry. [La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 000 GMT 16 Oct 79 PY]

GEOTHERMAL ENERGY EXPLORATION--The Bolivian Geological Service (GEOBOL) reported that six exploratory wells 1,150 meters deep will be drilled in Laguna Colorada and the Empexa Valley in search of geothermal energy for industrial projects. The contract was signed between GEOBOL and the Italian Aquater Enterprise whose initial studies produced favorable results. The project will cost $177,000. It will begin on 5 October and conclude by the end of November this year [La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0525 GMT 28 Sep 79 PY]

AGREEMENT CLAUSE ON SALE OF ENRICHMENT PROCESS BARED

PY260109 Rio De Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 25 Oct 79 p 23 PY

[Excerpts] Although Brazil owns only 50 percent of the rights to the technology of uranium enrichment by the jet nozzle method, a clause in the Brazilian-FRG agreement obliges this country to try to sell this method to as many countries as possible--a demand intended to guarantee an enriched uranium supply for the FRG. Professor Erwin Willy Becker, who is the inventor of the method, made this disclosure Wednesday night shortly before the end of a session of the congressional nuclear investigation committee.

Assisting Professor Becker in answering a question asked by industrialist Carlos Villares, Otto Galvao, an adviser to the NUCLEBRAS president, explained that the agreement provides for the marketing of the process by NUSTEP, a company in which NUCLEBRAS subscribed 50 percent of the capital and STEAG, a company controlled by the FRG Government, the remainder. Calvao said: "The marketing clause exists, in effect, but in actuality, in the present stage of the technology, we are in a competitive position to transact the sale of a commercial plant. At the appropriate time, when the demonstration plant to be built in Brazil proves its economic viability, any country which wants to buy an enrichment plant from NUSTEP will be able to place an order, just as for any other industrial unit."

The possibility of NUSTEP selling an enrichment plant is a new fact in the field of nuclear technology transfer at the international level. Up until now, no country has been able to acquire an enrichment plant because it involves sensitive technology, that is, technology which makes it possible to obtain fissionable material to build nuclear weapons.

The disclosure made by Professor Becker in a public session of the congressional nuclear investigation committee may cause international ripples, according to a senator who is a member of the committee, because it has to do with the question of proliferation in the form of a commercial obligation. This should cause horror in countries which worry about proliferation--the United States, for example.

A high-ranking NUCLEBRAS official in Brasilia refused to say if the agreements which are being negotiated between Brazil and other countries--Iraq, Venezuela and Mexico--might provide for the export of uranium enrichment plants. He said, however, that the export of an enrichment plant would only make sense in the case of countries with large uranium reserves.

Possible Cancellation of Clause

PY260058 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Oct 79 p 1 PY

[Text] Brazil may demand the cancellation of those items of the Brazilian-FRG nuclear agreement dealing with the uranium enrichment process (jet nozzle) and with the order for six more nuclear plants, in view of the German inclination to jeopardize the transfer of technology. A high-ranking nuclear source came to this conclusion after listening to the testimony of Prof Erwin Becker at the Senate investigation committee on the Brazilian-FRG nuclear agreement. "When the charges made by Gen Dirceu Coutinho, former director of the NUCLEBRAS Isotope Enrichment Inc., were confirmed, Coutinho had asked to be relieved of his duties in view of his disagreement with the manner in which NUCLEBRAS and the Germans had been handling the subject of uranium enrichment." Brazil faces the risk of investing $1.2 billion in the jet nozzle process--which is 3.5 times more costly than that used by the United States--with only a slim chance of being able to compete in the international market. With $1.2 billion, NUCLEBRAS could even develop its own uranium enrichment process.

Foreign Minister Statement

PY260253 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 25 Oct 79 p 23 PY

[Text] Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro yesterday admitted the possibility that contracts signed between NUCLEBRAS and several FRG companies (the largest of which is the Kraftwerk Union) might be modified. The foreign minister told this to a group of FRG deputies who are visiting Brazil, while denying any modification in the agreements between the governments.

After meeting with Foreign Minister Guerreiro yesterday, this information was given to the press by Deputy Annemarie Renger of the Social Democratic Party, Deputy Helmut Schaefer of the Free Democratic Party and Deputy Theodor Waigel of the Christian Social Union. Annemarie Renger, who is vice president of the FRG parliament, said that she heard the Brazilian foreign minister give assurances that the nuclear agreement will not be modified at the initiative of the Brazilian Government.

According to these deputies, Foreign Minister Guerreiro explained that the Brazilian-FRG nuclear agreement is being subjected to a national debate and that he believes that this is important because it helps to clear up doubts about the agreement. But the deputies went no further in their statement because, as they put it, "in our talks with Brazilian authorities we did not go into details."

Deputy Renger said that she did not know the reasons why many documents related to the nuclear agreement are being kept secret in Brazil. She added that that is not the case in the FRG, but she admitted that some papers might have been kept in secret because the Kraftwerk Union and other companies involved in the agreement are private. She then said that the question of secrecy is a Brazilian domestic matter.

Deputy Schaefer of the Free Democratic Party (allied to the Social Democrats in government) stated that the FRG has no interest in keeping any document secret or in doing anything to that effect. Regarding Brazil, he said that it is up to the government to make its documents public or not, but he added that contracts involving private companies can only be made public with their consent.

A reporter pointed out that although the FRG companies are private, NUCLEBRAS is state-owned. At this Schaefer observed: "It is then up to the Brazilian Government to make those documents public, but I do not mean this is a demand because I do not have that right."

PRIVATE COMPANIES' PROFIT TAX HIKED 5 PERCENT

PY250057 Rio De Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 24 Oct 79 p 20 PY

[Excerpt] The nation's president signed a decree yesterday raising the basic level of tax on companies' income from 30 to 35 percent as of fiscal year 1980, taking 1979 as the reference point. The decree also levies an additional 5 percent tax on enterprises (nearly 2,700) making profits higher than 30 million cruzeiros in the next 3 years.

The income tax raise for companies became necessary, according to the Finance Ministry, because tax revenues in 1978 fell "below budgetary provisions." Authorities said that the decree will also correct distortions in the existing legislation which are hurting tax revenues.

Another decree allows small-and medium-sized companies to file profit declarations in simplified forms on the basis of profit forecasts. According to Francisco Dornelles, federal revenues secretary, this decree will benefit nearly 300,000 enterprises of the taxpaying companies).

CUBILLOS DISCUSSES LATIN AMERICAN RELATIONS, LETELIER CASE

PY251833 Santiago Chile ERCILLA in Spanish 23 Oct 79 pp 15-18 PY

[Undated interview with Chilean Foreign Minister Hernan Cubillos by Blanca Arthur--place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] You once said that one could uphold a firm ideology in the domestic sector but be a pluralist regarding international matters. Would you explain the meaning of this and how you apply it?

[Answer] Inside one's own house one has the right to enforce a specific ideological policy: A general policy that suits his more instrinsic qualities and traditions. But I believe it is a mistake to try to enforce in today's independent world a specific domestic policy at the international level. What I try to do in international politics is to avoid preaching, giving an example of something that is not there. And I do not want people to cite us as an example.

[Question] But this is precisely the way it was presented at the beginning....What changed this situation?

[Answer] If there has indeed been a change it is because of what I have just said: There has been an adaptation to the real situation. Moreover, it is quite evident that today's domestic situation is different from the emergency we experienced at the beginning.

[Question] It is said that today there is more coordination between what is called the domestic and foreign sectors. Has this had any effect on your task?

[Answer] Of course, it has been very useful.

[Question] But it is also said that you are annoyed by many domestic measures which are enforced because they pose difficulties to your task.

[Answer] One of the characteristics of the present government is the strength we gain from our permanent teamwork. This, however, does not mean that we always agree. This is logical in all human groups. But decisions are studied and evaluated, and there is a coordinated action.

[Question] You once noted that people should not divide countries into friendly and nonfriendly countries, that they should be divided into countries which have common interests. What aspects would bring Chile closer to other nations?

[Answer] This is correct. This is a broader concept of friendship or enmity. Some countries share a greater number of interests. It would not be very diplomatic to list each one of them but we can point out the larger areas. Latin America, because of cultural and geographic reasons and because of tradition, is closer to Chile. That is why it will always be a priority area. There are also cultural and commercial ties with Europe. And, because of today's dynamics, there are new paths being opened which are leading us into common interests with Asia, Southeast Asia and Japan: the agglutinating factor in this case is the Pacific Ocean. We must also consider in general terms that wherever there are trade relations there are always closer human relations. We have examples such as the United States, the FRG....

[Question] If Chile has common interests with them it is logical that they also have common interests with Chile. How do you explain that for many years Chile has been the victim of a sort of isolation on the part of these and other countries?

[Answer] I categorically reject the idea that Chile is an isolated country.

[Question] But you cannot deny the fact that it has been isolated....

[Answer] We have gone through other times that have demanded other answers. I believe that it is precisely because of its political and economic development in the domestic field that Chile today is not an isolated country. We maintain normal diplomatic relations with the most important countries of the world and we carry on trade with more than 100 countries. I was able to meet with the main authorities of the countries I visited without any problems.

[Question] You have charged that the United States is a neo-interventionist country.

[Answer] What did I say?

[Question] You said it is neo-interventionist country.

[Answer] Concerning the economic sector.

[Question] How about the political sector? You have reasserted that the Letelier case is strictly a judicial matter. Will Chile continue to uphold this position if the United States gives a political answer to the decision on the extradition?

[Answer] While there is no official definitive answer, this issue will be maintained at the proper judicial level. The United States is studying the case it submitted to our courts. We hope the United States will take this case as any citizen who has learned something about law would: that when you take something to court you can either win or lose. They lost a case. I believe in the Americans' sense of fair play [phrase in English], and I believe there is something of this involved in this case. It is obvious that if there are political reactions on the part of the United States we will also react in the same way. We have tried, nevertheless, to maintain the issue at the judicial level by upholding treaties, which is also another basic principle of our policy.

[Question] Some say we have to be firm when dealing with the United States; others believe we have to be more moderate in view of its importance. What is your opinion on this issue?

[Answer] Chile at this point does not have an inferiority complex. And this an important thing to understand in international relations. I do not want to issue any opinion while the issue is still pending and while there is no official reaction. Relations with the United States are the most difficult to understand. They are very pluralist and there are many centers of power which influence overall national decisions: At one time one may confront a difficult situation with the White House, with Congress, the business sector, or the other great power, the mass media.

[Question] Although there is a difference, influential power centers in Peru have also promoted a hostile attitude toward Chile this year, reaching its peak with the Peruvian president's recent statement. What is the reason for this policy of not answering this aggressive attitude?

[Answer] Chile maintains this calm attitude because it knows that it is assisted by reason and justice.

[Question] If the Peruvians continue with this attitude will Chile maintain the same policy? Do you believe that it may be interpreted as weakness?

[Answer] We are quite aware of the symbolism of this year, which is why we have acted with calmness. I am certain that the people do not confuse restraint with weakness. They know that Chile is a strong nation when there is a need to be strong. There is no need to voice this.

[Question] Speaking of other matters, what do you think about the fact that Bolivia was able to include the sea issue in the agenda of the forthcoming OAS Assembly?

[Answer] The OAS is a multilateral organization and I have already expressed my opinion about it. We are convinced that it is not the proper forum to discuss the issue. Others believe that, because of greater vote support, it is. But the solution to the Bolivian aspiration--it is not a right because they do not have such a right, and furthermore we have no pending problems with Bolivia--if ever there is one, will be through direct bilateral negotiations between two civilized countries.

[Question] Although there is optimism about the Argentine issue, do you believe that our present situation with Peru and Bolivia can influence the outcome of that conflict?

[Answer] I do not think so at all. We never considered these issues while we were studying the situation with Argentina. These are completely independent and different cases and this is the way they are being treated.

[Question] How do you view the future of the mediation, and what is your opinion on Cardinal Samore's recent statement about a possible solution by the middle of next year?

[Answer] I have always been optimistic about the mediation.

[Question] Lately in Argentina there has been a sort of ideolcgical campaign promoted by the government in which Chile is viewed as more like a necessary ally than an enemy. Do you believe this can be an influential factor in this conflict?

[Answer] It is not my intention to give a diplomatic answer, but I will not issue an opinion on Argentine domestic issues.

[Question] The meeting in the United States of the Southern Cone foreign ministers was held after the Andean Group acquired a new political nature as a result of the Nicaraguan conflict. Is there a possibility that there will be a new alternative for a political answer to Latin American problems?

[Answer] Chile does not uphold bloc-oriented policies. I believe only in natural alliances when these take place.

[Question] There are those who have criticized the withdrawal of Chile from the Andean Pact....

[Answer] When we did, the group did not have its present connotation and we explained quite well at the time that we did so strictly because of economic limitations which obstructed Chilean development during the crisis it was experiencing at the time. All the countries also know why we withdrew from the pact and we have told them that, if the group's economic policy is compatible with ours, we have no reservations about returning.

ARCHBISHOP SAYS GOVERNMENT HAS NOT FULFILLED PROMISES

PY252334 Paris AFP in Spanish 1857 GMT 25 Oct 79 PY

[Excerpts] Geneva, 25 Oct (AFP)--Chilean Cardinal and Santiago Archbishop Raul Silva Henriquez stated here today that "General Pinochet's and other governments will be judged by history."

The head of the Chilean church held a press conference in Geneva where he arrived in response to an invitation issued by the World Council of Churches after visiting Vienna and Belgium.

He indicated that after the military coup the government promised the people to provide for their well-being, "but this has not been fulfilled." He affirmed that "the status of peasants and workers has further deteriorated."

He told the news media that the Chilean bishops have recently issued a pastoral letter concerning the problems which the peasants are facing nowadays and that the answer they got was that "the bishops are not technicians."

On the problem of "missing" citizens, he stated that the church had reported 500 cases duly documented by relatives to the proper government officials and that they were promised an answer which has yet to arrive.

BRIEFS

BRITISH TRADE DELEGATION--Santiago, Chile, 22 Oct--A spokesman of the British Embassy in Santiago has announced the arrival of a British trade delegation in this city. The group headed by Arthur Jackson, secretary of the Birmingham Foreign Trade Chamber, is composed of 14 representatives of important English manufacturing plants. During their 7-day visit they will promote the sale of their industrial goods as well as an increase in Chilean-British trade relations. The delegation's agenda includes meetings with Economy Minister Roberto Kelly and other Chilean officials and businessmen. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1233 GMT 22 Oct 79 PY]

DEATH OF PRESIDENTIAL AIDE--Brig Gen Rene Escauriaza, chief of the Presidential Staff, died in Santiago de Chile today at the age of 48. His death was caused by a heart attack triggered by an asthma condition. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1630 GMT 16 Oct 79 PY]

EXPORT FIGURES--The Central Bank has reported that Chilean exports for the first 9 months of 1979 have totaled $2.372 billion in comparison with the $1.575 billion of the previous year. It also reported that traditional exports such as copper, iron, saltpeter and others increased by 5.15 percent. They totaled $1.596 billion for the same period in comparison with $1.053 billion in 1978. Moreover, nontraditional exports such as cellulose, paper, fish, fruits, and others totaled $776.2 million for the same period. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1053 GMT 6 Oct 79 PY]

NONTRADITIONAL EXPORTS--According to the information supplied by the Central Bank, nontraditional exports and exports in general experienced a significant surge in September. In September 1978 the country exported $204 million worth of goods, while in September this year it exported $333 million. This represents a 73.3 percent increase. As to nontraditional exports, they alone experienced a 71 percent increase compared to September last year. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 Oct 79 PY]

ARMY BREAKS UP EPL IN META DEPARTMENT

PA241358 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 8 Oct 79 p 17 PA

[By Eduardo Carrillo]

[Text] With the recent capture of 16 members of the Popular Liberation Army, the "Guadalupe Salcedo Unda" guerrilla front has been totally broken up. The front had its area of operations in Villavicencio, San Martin, Granada, Lejanias, Pinalito, Puerto Caldas, Puerto Rico, Puerto Lleras, Vereda Cunumia and the Cano de Guejar region. It had planned to kill two policemen and attack five towns in the next few days.

The captures took place following a lengthy and exhaustive investigation carried out by the Military Institutes Brigade initiated after the capture of 11 members of the "Pedro Leon Arbolead" urban cell who had attempted to blow up the Palace of Justice a few months ago.

After making certain discoveries (which were not disclosed), the investigators went to Meta Department on 15 occasions to make the contacts that led to the subsequent capture of the members of the "Guadalupe Salcedo Unda" front, who in past months have daily harassed several regions with continuous attacks and robberies.

Support Networks

The front operated in three camps, called "6 June," "Cazadores" and "17 July," where it met periodically to consider new terrorist actions and evaluate the actions which it has already carried out.

The extremists revealed that they did not often go to the Cazadores camp, because it was unsafe; deer hunters were constantly in this area and could denounce them if they saw them.

The rural extremists front had support centers throughout Meta Department. Authorities have disclosed that the leaders of these centers have been identified and will be arrested at any moment.

Provisional Command

During the large-scale operation in Meta Department the following persons were captured: Jorge Franco, political chief of the Marxist-Leninist Party and main leader of the Pedro Leon Arboleda (PLA) city cell; Luz Marina Vanegas Lopez, alias Omaira, finance secretary of the Enver Hoxha regional group. She was a teacher in a public school in the special district and Jorge Franco's girlfriend; Carlos Alfonso Avilan Patino, who is being tried in absentia by court martial at the Ramon Arturo Rincon Quininez armored cavalry barracks and Adriana Urtedey's boyfriend; Jose del Carmen Moran, alias Pedro, commander of the Guadalupe Salcedo Unda front; Jose Rogelio Escala, alias Jacinto; German Antonio Aristizabal; Gilberto Moncada Munoz, alias Jose; Pablo Julio Rojas Rozo; Luis Alfredo Sepulveda; Omar Antonio Valencia Taborda and Hugo Patino.

Birth of the Front

The prisoners confessed that the Guadalupe Salcedo Unda front was created in December 1978 with the occupation of the village of Pinalito, a firebomb attack on an army boat at the village of Puerto Rico, the attack on the village of Las Villas and the liberation of Juan Carlos, a member of the terrorist organization, from prison in Villavicencio.

The front had three newspapers: LIBERACION and REVOLUCION, with a nationwide circulation, and DIEZ A UNO, which reported all the activities of Popular Liberation Army (EPL).

Demoralization

At a meeting called by the national directorate, the leaders were called to a consultation session in La Calera Muncipality, to analyze the withdrawal of several members. Demoralized by the continuous setbacks they have had in recent months, the withdrawal of several members was accepted, among them Julio N. and Marcos N.

Other meetings were to be held after that, in San Martin del Meta and in Medellin, but these did not take place because of the arrest of one of the regional leaders.

Modern Arms

During the operation, military authorities seized a large quantity of automatic weapons, money, tents and modern high-frequency communications equipment. They also seized a secret code manual apparently written by a member of the organization.

Some of the weapons were found buried. The prisoners admitted doing this, and also revealed some of the EPL's secret plans for the future.

Select Group

The investigation established that among the members of the terrorist's organization are those called professionals, who receive paramilitary instruction abroad, and those called nationals.

It was also learned that the finance committee saves a great deal and is in charge of regularly supplying food, clothes, housing, arms, travel facilities, forged documents and military equipment.

The members of a command earn 4,500 pesos a month. Each region receives 20 percent of the amount stolen from banks. All those accounts are entered in a ledger. This book has not been found. The finance committee secretary disclosed the existence of the ledger.

Military Victory

However, the extremist organizations in the cities and rural areas in the past 2 weeks have carried out attacks in different parts of the country. They have occupied villages and radio stations. They blew up a military convoy, killing nine persons, among them seven soldiers, and held up several cars.

A Defense Ministry spokesman said these activities are an attempt to harm the good image of the military authorities and to mar the successful campaign by the army intelligence service. In other words, the spokesman added, the extremists got what was coming to them when the army in Bucaramanga arrested 26 members of the M-19 eastern mobile cell of Meta Department; 16 members of the EPL in Valle Department, and some 20 members of the communist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). All those arrested will be tried by court martial, the Defense Ministry spokesman said.

Tried in Absentia

One of the extremists captured in Meta is being tried in absentia at the Gen Ramon Arturo Rincon Quinones armored cavalry barracks. He is Carlos Alfonso Avilan Patino, alias Eduardo or Ramiro, who confessed his crimes and gave information to army intelligence regarding the clandestine organization. Avilan Patino will be informed by the president of the court of the charges against him. He confessed that he participated in robberies of the following banks: the National Savings Bank, Western Bank, Bank of Colombia, Bank of Commerce and the Savings Social Fund. He is also accused of assaults on loan corporations, homicide, theft of government weapons and other lesser crimes, the Defense Ministry spokesman indicated.

BRAZILIAN ASSISTANCE PROMISED FOR ALCOHOL FUEL CONVERSION

PY251358 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 24 Oct 79 p 11 PY

[Excerpt] Industry and Commerce Minister Dr Delfin Ugarte Centurion, following his return from Sao Paulo, reported that our country will soon receive the necessary technical assistance from Brazil to introduce the new technology for substituting petroleum with alcohol fuel. He stressed that this would be achieved over the short term, considering the potential wealth of Paraguay in the agricultural area and the possibilities of significantly increasing the cultivation of sugarcane, the raw material for the manufacture of anhydrous alcohol.

Ugarte noted that during his stay in Sao Paulo he took the opportunity to talk with representatives of industry and the Brazilian business sector who are working on substituting fossil fuel with alcohol. He said that plans call for setting up small industrial units for the manufacture of alcohol at several locations throughout the country, and that with the minimal investment involved, (about 2.5 million guaranies) alcohol production would be within the reach of a broad sector of national producers.

These industrial units would be geared to produce about 90,000 liters of alcohol fuel, he said, noting that the Brazilian cooperation would be directed toward introducing minor modifications to automobile engines to enable them to run on alcohol. He indicated that these modifications could be done in any mechanical shop and that their cost should be no more than 5,000 guaranies.

BRIEFS

NEW HEALTH DIRECTOR GENERAL--The National Executive Branch yesterday appointed Dr Jose Efrain Alderete as the new director general of the Public Health and Social Welfare Ministry. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 17 Oct 79 p 12 PY]

FINANCE MINISTER'S RETURN--Paraguayan Finance Minister Gen Cesar Barrientos, ret, yesterday returned from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank meeting held in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. [Asuncion LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 15 Oct 79 p 5 PY]

MINISTER TO BRAZIL--Industries and Commerce Minister Delfin Ugarte Centurion left for Brazil yesterday. He will visit Curitiba and Sao Paulo, meet with the governors of Parana and Sao Paulo states, tour several factories and lecture on Paraguay's economic and social development. [Asuncion HCY in Spanish 16 Oct 79 p 10 PY]

FOREIGN DEBT FIGURES--According to information released by the Paraguayan Central Bank, the country's foreign debt totaled $689.6 million as of 30 June 1979. [Asuncion HCY in Spanish 16 Oct 79 p 9 PY]

JAPANESE LOAN GUARANTEE--The executive branch has issued Decree No 10,200 which authorized the Finance Ministry to grant the guarantee of the National Treasury and the Paraguayan Central Bank by endorsing all documents related to a loan granted to Paraguay by the Japanese Government. This 3.9 billion-yen loan granted by the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund will be used for the purchase of equipment, installation and supervision of a ground station for a satellite communications system, a microwave station, and incorporation of modern equipment in the national telecommunications system. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 9 Oct 79 p 11 PY]

WORKERS, POLICE CLASH IN VALENCIA, CARACAS

PA252222 Paris AFP in Spanish 2143 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] Valencia, Venezuela, 25 Oct (AFP)--A Venezuelan worker was killed today in a clash between police and workers of Carabobo State who were demonstrating in demand of a general wage increase. The workers have been on strike for the past 24 hours.

Students and workers in the demonstration tried to set fire to the regional headquarters of the ruling Social Christian Party (COPEI) but the fire only affected the front of the building.

The strike in Carabobo State, which affected all activities in the state, and labor demonstrations in Caracas and important cities in the interior, are in reply to a call from the powerful opposition Confederation of Workers of Venezuela (CTV) which is demanding congressional approval of a salary increase bill. The bill was drawn up by the CTV and is opposed by COPEI, the government and businessmen.

In Caracas, thousands of workers were marching this afternoon in a slight rain to protest the high cost of living and to support the bill. Heavily armed policemen are guarding congressional buildings to prevent the demonstrators from getting near it. They are also guarding government buildings in downtown Caracas. Groups of demonstrators attacked the police with rocks near the Congress and the police fired warning shots, violently dispersing the persons in the area.

In Valencia, the police action was more violent. The initial toll in the clash was one worker dead, one student seriously wounded during disturbances yesterday, [as received] at least 12 wounded, many persons with bruises and several hundred arrested.

The workers' demonstrations coincided with a nationwide general strike of 200,000 teachers who paralyzed classes yesterday and today demanding the signing of a collective wage contract.

Opposition Deputies Injured

PA252314 Paris AFP in Spanish 2234 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 25 Oct (AFP)--Several opposition deputies were injured here this afternoon when the police dispersed a workers demonstration which protested the high cost of living and demanded the approval of a general wage increase law.

Jose Vicente Rangel, deputy and former presidential candidate of the Marxist Movement for Socialism (MAS), was injured in the left eye by pellets, while Manuel Penalver of the PSD [Social Democratic Party, the largest opposition party] and Teodoro Petkoff of the MAS were injured by rocks.

Jose Vargas, deputy and president of the powerful Confederation of Workers of Venezuela, charged that three tear gas grenades were thrown at him when he led the demonstration.

Groups of demonstrators burned and looted a bank and a shoe store located on the demonstration route.

150,000 March in Caracas

PA252223 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2510 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] Caracas, 25 Oct (LATIN)--The Caracas police used tear gas this afternoon against a demonstration of some 150,000 workers marching toward the congressional building in support of a salary increase bill.

The clashes, during which several demonstrators were injured, occurred three blocks from the congressional building when the police dispersed the rally called by the Confederation of Workers of Venezuela.

ENVOY SAYS GOVERNMENT NOT SERVING AS MEDIATOR IN EL SALVADOR

PA251254 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2050 GMT 24 Oct 79 PA

[Euclides Perez report]

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister [name indistinct] has said that Venezuela is not acting as a mediator between the Salvadoran guerrillas and government. He said:

[begin recording] [Deputy foreign minister] We were greatly surprised by a report in a national newspaper today that the Venezuelan Government will act as mediator in an alleged conflict between guerrillas and the current Salvadoran Government. This is completely untrue. Venezuela has not given any instructions on this matter.

Venezuela continues to follow with great respect the development of events in El Salvador, but we consider that any circumstance [words indistinct] will be the result of a sovereign decision by the Salvadoran people.

This report is completely groundless despite the fact that it tried to attribute the information to the Venezuelan charge d'affaires in El Salvador. Venezuela always analyzes and studies its decisions in such matters and subsequently makes them known to its diplomats abroad. In this case, no position has been (?adopted) and we are merely observing with full respect the development of events in that sister country.

[Question by unidentified reporter] Is this related to the fact that most of the members of the new Salvadoran Cabinet are Christian Democrats?

[Answer] We do not have confirmation of the report that Christian democracy is participating in the formation of the new Salvadoran Government. We do understand that social democracy is the only one participating as a political force in representation of the democratic opposition parties in the current government junta which replaced General Romero in El Salvador.

But Venezuela cannot assume a partisan attitude in the area of foreign policy. In this case we represent all Venezuelans and the political and partisan problems of Christian democracy are the exclusive concern of the Christian Democratic Party in El Salvador and not of the Venezuelan Government. [end recording]

STRIKING TEACHERS, GOVERNMENT STATE POSITIONS

Solis Reads Reply to Government

PA251629 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Document read by Gilberto Solis, spokesman for the joint leadership of the teachers' movement, presented to the education minister on 24 October; place not given--recorded]

[Text] We announce to the country our position regarding the proposals made by the government in a document delivered to us last night, 23 October. [as heard]

1. Since the beginning of the negotiations and on the basis of the order established in the agreements signed by both parties on 19 September, we have proposed:

A. The discussion and transformation of Law 22 of 1973 on the basis of our 1979 salary. This not only includes economic aspirations but also expresses the desire for regulations concerning the teachers' careers, respect, academic evaluation and the social and cultural work of Panamanian teachers.

B. The validity, respect for and fulfillment of Law No 47 of 1946, the Organic Education Law, as a regulating foundation of the educational system which has been systematically violated since 1968.

C. The overall review of educational reform as an integral part of the Panamanian education system which has been imposed on teachers and students without any consultation.

2. The government's proposals in the 23 October document do not contain the positions presented by the government representatives at the negotiations table during the last meeting held on 20 October, and they retrocede in the three previously mentioned points, thus violating what was negotiated. Once again there is an attempt to confuse the Panamanian teachers and national public opinion. Furthermore, that document omits points which had already been agreed upon and which had been accepted by the parties. Among others, these points are:

A. A 10 balboa increase for primary school teachers.

B. Conditions that will allow teachers to retire after 28 years, counting the interim and probationary period. Regarding the time served by private school teachers for retirement, we have requested a reduction of from 15 years to 10 years. Instead, we have been clear and emphatic in indicating that any years worked should be recognized for retirement purposes.

C. Once the time owed is repaid, we demand that this practice be discontinued. [as heard]

D. The recognition of a true salary increase for all teachers regardless of how much they earn.

E. The recognition of a 35-balboa salary increase for all teachers with payment of: 10 balboas in January 1980, 10 balboas in June 1980 and 15 balboas in January 1981 as was agreed to in the last meeting of the negotiators.

Concerning bonuses, we originally asked for 25 balboas every 2 years for teachers and professors. However, on 19 October we agreed in principle to go down to 20 balboas as a conciliatory gesture. This figure represents our final position based on the will of the rank and file.

3. Regarding the Organic Education Law 47 of 1946, we have always maintained in our talks, communiques and radio and television statements that this law must remain in effect, be respected and complied with. However, the government evades its responsibility by not mentioning the following points in its documents:

It does not mention compliance with last year's agreements regarding the law in question which was reported in detail in 30 of the 31 points. Also, the number of students per classroom established by the organic law should be a minimum of 20 students and a maximum of 35. Finally, the minimum working hours per week should be 24 and the maximum 28.

Regarding teachers' appointments, we have established that all principal positions should be opened to examination with or without a budget. This means that there will not be any legalizations, [as heard] therefore abiding by the organic law. All principal positions filled since 1972 without abiding by the law in question should be opened to examination.

Regarding selection boards, we demand compliance with Decree No 184 of 24 June 1964 and the annullment of Resolution No 361 of 1979 and Decree No 8 of 1 November 1978. We point out that the Organic Education Law cannot be complied with if the accompanying regulations contradicting it are not abolished.

4. Regarding the educational reform, our movement, with the support of the citizens, has made clear its criticism of the reform in question. We believe it should be clearly established that the revision of the educational system should be based on Law No 47 of 1946 which points out that the educational philosophy of the first cycle (grades 7-9) should be formative and exploratory. We have proposed and defended the immediate, true and effective abolishment of all the legal foundations of the educational reform. We cannot accept the validity of an executive decree which only abolishes other executive decrees while leaving cabinet decrees and laws concerning the educational reform intact. We also demand the immediate elimination of the National Commission for the Educational Reform, Plans, Programs, Reports, Texts and so-called sectorization and nuclearization. We demand the reinstallation of kindergarten to replace the so-called centers for the guidance of children as well as the suspension of registration fees at the basic schools.

The president's statement noting that composition of the commission that will analyze, study and recommend the structure of the country's education will be determined later, does not agree with what we had discussed in the negotiations.

The composition of the commission in question should be agreed upon and immediately announced to the public. Fifty percent of the commission should be made up of members from our organizations and the National Medical Negotiating Commission. The other 50 percent should be made up of members of the National Association of Parents, the Church Commission for Education, the unions of workers of the private sector, and student, civic and labor organizations. The commission in question will be in charge of establishing the guidelines for the country's educational policy and will make sure that it is complied with according to the corresponding constitutional articles. The commission will also approve or reject any changes proposed or pending on this matter.

5. We reaffirm our commitment and our desire to complete the school year so that our students and parents will not be hurt. The suspension of the strike will take place solely and exclusively after there has been a clarification and precise statement of what has been discussed in the area of wages with the ministers of education, planning and labor; the matter of the enforcement and respect for the organic law; and matters related to the effective revocation of the educational reform program.

When we decide that the strike has ended, the return to classes will take place while we maintain a state of alert. The government will be responsible for a possible rupture if it seeks to mock the aspirations of the teachers and the people in general.

We warn the entire community of our country to remain vigilant and not to allow governmental authorities to attempt to mock the aspirations of the majority of our people, which have been clearly expressed at all times.

Finally, there should be a public and formal commitment by government authorities not to make any kind of social, political, cultural or economic reprisals against any person, entity, organization or association which has cooperated with or participated directly or indirectly in our movement before, during or after the strike. Now or never!

[Signed] Julio Cesar Ortiz, Association of High School Teachers of the Republic of Panama; Marco Alarcon, Authentic Independent Teachers Movement: Gilberto Solis, Association of Private School Educators and the signatures of the representatives of the provincial committees.

Government Reaffirms Position in Note

PA252358 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Note sent by ministers of education, labor and planning to negotiators of striking teachers on 25 October 79]

[Text] Dear teachers: upon analyzing the document which was released to the country and delivered to the minister of education on Wednesday, 24 October, in which you present the position of the teachers you represent with regard to the final proposal made by the national government, we inform you of the following:

1. Analysis of the aforementioned document has led us to confirm once again that there is no serious intent on your part to bring these extended negotiations to an end, despite the reiterated demonstrations of good will and specific answers the national government has given. This conclusion is derived from, among other things, the emergence of new situations not previously presented during the negotiations and the inclusion of new points in topics upon which agreement had already been achieved during said negotiations.

2. Each time that you have professed to be willing to continue talks on the basis of alleged good will, you have simultaneously organized a series of actions preventing the establishment of conditions favorable to the conclusion of an agreement that is desired by the students, parents and the citizenry in general. Most of those actions demonstrate the obvious intent to disrupt social tranquillity and peace and cause tension within the community.

3. In view of the aforementioned considerations and the serious risk of losing the school year, which has social and economic implications for the entire community, the national government explained its position through its highest representative, Dr Aristides Royo, president of the republic, on the evening of 22 October, before the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives. That position was explained in the document delivered to you on the evening of Tuesday, 23 October, which contained the government's final position.

4. Not content with the explanations given in the aforementioned document, the national government formulated the legal provisions and legislation to complement the actions announced by the president. They will be presented to the National Legislation Council. This action is a further reliable demonstration of the government's intent to comply with its commitments.

Unfortunately, the true value of this effort has not been appreciated by you. Based on respect for the citizenry and in order to comply with the national government's commitment to the teachers, students and parents of the country, we reiterate the final answers given to you, with which all Panamanians are familiar. These are the proposals contained in the three basic points which served as the basis for the respective negotiations. Consequently, we feel that the communique to the country issued by you is intended to create confusion, and at the same time, to initiate a new, interminable negotiating process which, far from resulting in a solution to the problem, would prevent a prompt reestablishment of educational activities throughout the national territory. We urge all the country's teachers to return to their teaching duties in order to save the school year for the benefit of this generation of Panamanians which constitutes the hope of the fatherland.

[Signed] Gustavo Garcia de Paredes, minister of education; Oyden Ortega, minister of labor and social welfare; Gustavo Gonzalez, minister of planning and economic policy.

Education Minister Comments

PA251729 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 0400 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Statement by Education Minister Gustavo Garcia de Paredes after receiving teachers' declaration on 24 October; no place given--recorded]

[Text] After hearing Professor Solis read the teachers' declaration I want to tell you that my impression is that all the points appearing on this paper are included in the talks we have held. Regarding the aspects you said we did not comply with, I want to tell you that in the last meeting in which we discussed economic aspects, we spoke of a draft which may solve the problem. At no time did we say that it was a firm government offer. We said that it depended upon agreement on the total package.

I also want to tell you that the government has made its final offer. Consequently, it is important for you to bear in mind that economic limitations have determined the government's budget capacity. This was stated in the note delivered to you.

Second, regarding the organic law, the government document states that it will be complied with.

Third, regarding the educational reform, it was abolished and we would proceed to appoint a committee made up of all the organizations you have mentioned. We believe that it should be a committee that includes all sectors of the country. However, it is our opinion that the statements in this letter indicate that you have set too many barriers to a settlement. This is the first impression we have upon receiving this note which will be duly analyzed. You will receive the government's reply on it.

Teachers Issue Conditional Acceptance

PA260257 Panama City Radio Diez in Spanish 0145 GMT 26 Oct 79 PA

[Striking teachers committees' communique to country]

[Text] In view of our responsibility as teachers and as parents and because of our commitment to the Panamanian people, and especially to the parents who have massively, spontaneously and unselfishly struggled beside us with unquestioning devotion, we have decided:

1. For the sake of the nation's welfare, not to insist on our just and honest economic demands and accept the offer imposed by the national government.

2. However, we demand the national government to:

A. Define aspects for the strict fulfillment of the Organic Education Law 47 of 1946;

B. Draft a law revoking all matters related to the educational reform;

C. Determine the composition and functions of the commission which will study the educational system;

D. Develop teaching careers as a fundamental aspect of the Panamanian educational process;

E. Make a public and formal commitment on the part of the government officials to not take any kind of social, political, economic or cultural reprisal against any persons, entity, organization or association which has cooperated or participated directly or indirectly in our movement, during, before or after the strike.

3. The teachers and doctors who are willing to negotiate in a permanent manner starting from this moment will lift the strike only and exclusively when these points have been duly satisfied by the government, accepted by our respective associations and ratified in the final document at the negotiating table.

Issued in Panama on 25 October 1979. Association of High School Teachers of the Republic, Authentic Independent Teachers Movement, Association of Private School Educators, National Medical Negotiating Commission, National Medical Association, Santo Tomas Hospital Specialists Association, and provincial committees.

Willingness To Continue Negotiations

PA260433 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0245 GMT 26 Oct 79 PA

[Announcement by Professor Agustin Alzamora to the nation]

[Text] Today we sent Education Minister Gustavo Garcia de Paredes a note which reads as follows:

Panama, 25 October 1979

Dr Gustavo Garcia de Paredes, education minister. Mr Minister:

We hereby publicly express our willingness and best intentions to find a negotiated solution to the crisis affecting the educational sector and the national community. Concrete proof of this sincere willingness to enter into a dialog is our agreement to continue talks at whatever time the education minister and the national government so determine following the reading of this open letter.

Marcos Alarcon, for the Authentic Independent Teachers Movement;

Julio C. Ortiz, for the Association of High School Teachers of the Republic of Panama;

Gilberto Solis, Association of Private Schools Educators

Several of the provincial committees also signed [this announcement].

COSTA RICA

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON IMMIGRATION OF NICARAGUANS

PA251944 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] Enrique Goyenaga, deputy director of immigration, has said that although many Nicaraguans are returning to their country every day, many more are leaving Nicaragua and going to Costa Rica. He added that most of these people are women because it is very difficult for men to leave Nicaragua unless they are very old. The main reason they are leaving Nicaragua is that many of them feel insecure under the new government. Others believe they must wait a while before deciding whether to stay in Nicaragua or emigrate to Costa Rica.

BRIEFS

NEW UNITY PARTY LEADERS--The presidents of the four parties which make up the Unity Coalition met yesterday to appoint the new national executive committee. Professor Jose Joaquin Trejos was appointed president; Mario Romero, leader of the Calderonist Republican Party, was appointed secretary general; and Deputy Arnulfo Cardona was unanimously elected as the coalition's treasurer. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA]

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH GDR--The broadening of trade relations between the GDR and Costa Rica is being sought with the agreement signed by GDR Deputy Foreign Trade Minister (Heinz Hauser) and Costa Rican Deputy Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus. Although the two countries have maintained diplomatic and trade relations for several years, the trade between them has been very low. The two officials expressed their hope that the two nations will bring their relations closer and increase their trade. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA]

EL SALVADOR

BPR TO NEGOTIATE WITH MINISTERS HELD HOSTAGE, NOT JUNTA

PA252209 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2023 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE)--The People's Revolutionary Bloc (BPR) is not seeking talks with the revolutionary government junta of El Salvador, stated a spokesman of this organization today. He added that in negotiating the evacuation of the Ministries of Economy and Labor, they will only speak to the two respective ministers.

The spokesman believes that the demands will not be met in compliance with what the junta wants, but because of what the people decide in their struggles.

The BPR took control of the ministries of economy and labor yesterday and is demanding compliance with a series of demands that include a decrease in the price of popular staples, the immediate release of political prisoners and missing persons, wage increases and other demands. Economy Minister Manuel Enrique Hinds, Planning Minister Alberto Hart Deneke, [name as received], 2 under secretaries and 124 other employees are being held hostage in the Ministry of Economy. Inside the ministry the occupants are lying on the floor. Some are asleep since they remained on alert all night, the spokesman explained. The employees and officials are all in one place. Their relatives are coming to the street entrance of the Ministry of the Economy to give BPR members food and drink for the hostages.

Four employees who are pregnant were released yesterday afternoon. Five vehicles are blocking the street and are acting as barricades.

At the onset, it was said that negotiations would begin at 0900 (1500 GMT) but the start of the talks has been put off throughout the day.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS CLASH WITH BPR IN SAN SALVADOR

PA260410 Paris AFP in Spanish 0347 GMT 26 Oct 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 25 Oct (AFP)--At least 10 persons were wounded today during clashes between members of the Christian Democratic Party and the People's Revolutionary Bloc (BPR) leftist group.

The tension in this country is increasing and unidentified groups are roaming the downtown sector tonight looting businesses in light of the absence of the army or police.

It was also learned that a grippe epidemic has broken out among the hostages at the Labor Ministry which has been occupied since Wednesday by BPR members.

ERP GUERRILLAS SEIZE FIVE RADIO STATIONS

PA252250 Paris AFP in Spanish 2150 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 25 Oct (AFP)--The clandestine Revolutionary People's Army [ERP], at 1300 (1900 GMT) attacked and seized five radio stations in San Salvador and others in the interior to broadcast messages condemning the government junta.

With the occupation of the radio stations, the ERP broke a truce in its subversive activities declared several days ago to allow the new government a chance to show how positive its program is. The ERP commandos arrived suddenly at the radio stations and after gagging their employees, proceeded to air recorded messages. When they retreated they left time bombs at the entrances to prevent interruption of the transmission. In its messages, the ERP termed the change of government in El Salvador as a new imperialist maneuver that counted with the complicity of the turncoat oligarchy and the opportunism of the Christian Democrats.

Meanwhile, some 15 women belonging to the Committee of Mothers of Political Prisoners and Missing Persons today began a hunger strike at Plaza de la Libertad, pointing out that every 12 hours, another mother would join the strike.

Three churches also remain occupied by subversives. The cathedral is still occupied by the Unified Popular Action Front and the El Rosario Church, located across from Plaza de la Libertad, is still occupied by the 28 February People's Leagues.

It was also learned that the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) has announced a rally to welcome its leader Jose Napoleon Duarte who returns from exile. The PDC demonstration, which has been described as opportunist by ultraleft groups in view of the PDC's support for the new regime, should conclude at the Plaza de la Libertad where the hunger strike is being held and a nearby church is being occupied by ultraleft groups.

In some circles it is feared that there could be outbreaks of violence at the Plaza de la Libertad. In the downtown sector the situation continues unchanged and tense in view of the occupation of the Economy and Labor Ministries and the blockaded streets which make traffic impossible.

COLONEL MAJANO SAYS 'BLACK DECEMBER' FORESTALLED

PA251220 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1607 GMT 24 Oct 79 PA

[By Francisco Rubiales]

[Text] San Salvador, 24 Oct (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran revolutionary junta believes it has averted what is known here as "Black December"--an insurrection against the central government promoted by the armed extreme left and scheduled for December.

Col Arnoldo Majano, one of the two military leaders of the coup that deposed President Carlos Humberto Romero on 15 October, told ACAN-EFE today that "El Salvador's Black December has been averted."

Majano explained that the armed extreme leftist groups planning the insurrection will be unable to carry it out because they will not have the support of the masses.

"We want the armed extreme left to express itself within the legal channels which are being created. In its present form, it will almost have to disappear," said Colonel Majano, who is believed to be the mastermind of the 15 October coup staged by the young, progressive sectors of the Salvadoran Army.

Majano said: "If the causes of discontent are eliminated, there is no reason for violence."

However, not all the Salvadoran leftist groups accept the junta's view. Although the Revolutionary People's Army (ERP), and its political front, the 28 February People's Leagues, have granted a temporary truce, suspending all armed actions, and the Communist Party has granted its support to the young military officers, the other guerrilla groups have not put down their arms.

Armed to the teeth, well organized in the underground and with large sums of money from kidnapings and robberies, the Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN), the Farabundo Marti Popular Liberation Forces (FPL) and the Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers (PRTC) are on a war footing. Some reports indicate that the Salvadoran leftist guerrilla forces number 50,000 or more.

The ERP and FARN advocate popular "insurrection" to take power immediately--a policy which was victorious in the struggle against Somoza in Nicaragua--while the FPL proposes a lengthy process of training cadres and organizing before the final attack on the government.

El Salvador today is on a knife's edge between the threat of civil war and the stabilization which would provide a democratic regime open to the reforms the country urgently needs.

Although the proclamation issued by the young military coupists includes the people's basic demands, the more radical groups state that "words are one thing and deeds are another."

In this regard, they accuse the present government of not having acted firmly to destroy the power of the armed extreme leftist groups, of failing to carry out a broad military purge, of failing to solve the problem of the political prisoners and of failing to take action to carry out the promised reforms.

The junta, made up of three civilians and two military men, defends itself by saying that it inherited a regime thoroughly permeated with corruption and that "it is not possible to achieve in days something that requires weeks, or to do in weeks what takes months to do."

The junta members explained to the press with visible concern that preliminary investigations regarding the lists of political prisoners they received led to the discovery that neither the prisoners nor the clandestine jail where they were allegedly tortured exist.

"Perhaps they existed in the past, but they do not exist now," said Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, another leader of the coup.

For his part, Colonel Arnoldo Majano announced that the army would be reorganized. He said people could not be eliminated before being judged and their real involvement in torture and corruption investigated.

When the members of the revolutionary junta were asked today what they would do if the armed extreme leftist groups were to decide to continue the struggle, they said that "we will continue to avoid confrontation, democratize the country and avoid bloodshed."

Asked by the foreign press why there are still violent actions by the armed forces, which have even resulted in deaths and injuries following the coup, the junta said it is not possible to erase in 9 days practices that were common for many years. They said some of the forces still need to adjust to the new spirit.

No one here doubts that it would be almost impossible for the planned "Black December" to happen if the junta manages to impose this "new spirit" and carry out the reforms that it has promised, and also to "unite the army with its people."

But there are many doubts whether the junta is capable of attaining its goals of democratization. Curiously, the main danger to the junta stems more from the extreme right than from the armed guerrillas.

If the guerrillas are armed to the teeth, the extreme right, imbued with a medieval philosophy on society and justice, is no less well armed. It is said for example, that the Nationalist Democratic Order (ORDEN), which has always operated as a militia supporting the government has more than 60,000 armed men organized in cantonal and neighborhood patrols.

Other armed clandestine groups of the extreme right are the White Warriors Union (UGB), the White Hand and the Phalange, all of which have a long tradition of eliminating political "enemies."

Observers agree that the task facing the young officers is arduous and difficult and that they were right in stating that they acted "to forestall an incipient civil war."

In the future, in order to impose democracy and justice in a country described as a "powder keg," they will have to cover both their right and left flanks and convince a desperate and hungry people that the distribution of land, education for all, health and justice in general can be reached with peace and coexistence.

FAPU LEADER SAYS 'FASCISTS' PLANNING COUNTERCOUP

PA251705 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1620 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE)--Jose Alberto Ramos, secretary general of the United Popular Action Front (FAPU), has denounced preparations by rightist sectors to carry out a counter coup d'etat against the Salvadoran revolutionary government junta.

In an article carried by the morning newspaper LA PRENSA GRAFICA today, Ramos says that "the junta's problem is that as long as it does not defeat the fascists who are within the military, it is in danger of a counter-coup d'etat."

According to reports obtained by FAPU, the countercoup is being planned and may occur at any time, possibly when the junta dares to carry out measures in favor of the people and against the bourgeoisie.

The civilian-military junta which assumed power last week overthrew the rightist government of Gen Carlos Humberto Romero, who was exiled along with his closest military associates.

Ramos believes the confrontation between the revolutionary movement and the fascist forces has been delayed but will occur later on. He said there is a need for systematic changes in El Salvador in order to improve the peasants' condition.

He added that if the junta succumbs to the pressures of the oligarchy, "of the Hill-FARO group," and does not grant anything to the people, everything will fail. He was referring to the powerful Hill family, with banking interests, and the Eastern Region's Agricultural Front (FARO) which combines the country's largest agricultural producers.

EXILED CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC LEADER DUARTE RETURNS

PA260220 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2237 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE)--Salvadoran Christian Democratic Leader Jose Napoleon Duarte arrived here this afternoon from Caracas, Venezuela where he had lived in exile for 7 years. Duarte left El Salvador in 1972 after being a presidential candidate in the elections which were officially won by Col Arturo Armando Molina.

Thousands of persons welcomed Duarte when he arrived this afternoon. He said that the Christian Democratic Party has decided to take up the challenge issued by the revolutionary government junta regarding its plans to lead the people toward a true democracy. He said they should all jointly examine the country's political situation so that all Salvadorans could contribute to overcoming current problems. "I have come to contribute my fair share," he told his fellow party members who welcomed him.

Duarte said that from his airplane he saw that San Salvador is currently an empty city because everyone was inside their homes. He added that it is important for everyone to come out of their houses to participate in the people's struggles. "I have come to ask the people not to stay in their houses because if they do others will make the decisions for them. One must become involved in deciding El Salvador's future," he added.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON HONDURAN RELATIONS

PA242254 Paris AFP in Spanish 1439 GMT 24 Oct 79 PA

[Text] La Paz, 24 Oct (AFP)--Hector Miguel Antonio Dada Hirezi, newly appointed Salvadoran foreign minister, said here today that the main concern of his country's new government is to normalize relations with Honduras.

Dada arrived Tuesday in La Paz at the head of his country's delegation to the OAS Assembly.

We are making every effort to normalize and restore diplomatic relations with Honduras. However, the willingness of both sides is required for this and we hope Honduras will show the same willingness, Dada said in a news conference.

Relations between the two Central American countries were severed 10 years ago following the so-called football war of July 1969.

Dada, a pale, prematurely balding man with long sideburns, patiently and good-humoredly fielded the avalanche of questions on the policies of the new Salvadoran Government. The junta calls itself provisional and will lead the country to free elections within a year, he said.

The delay in obtaining recognition from other governments has stemmed from the delay in forming a government. This in turn resulted from a national consultation which has made it possible to create a multiparty government.

GUATEMALA

SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT JUNTA RECOGNIZED

PA251857 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] The Guatemalan Government yesterday [word indistinct] the Salvadoran Government junta and the Foreign Ministry took immediate steps to dispatch an urgent diplomatic note in that connection.

The text of the official message released last night says the efforts to maintain peace and harmony that have characterized the friendship between Guatemala and El Salvador must remain unchanged and under that concept Guatemala recognizes the Salvadoran Government junta.

Notes Exchanged

PA260109 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] The relations between Guatemala and El Salvador remain unchanged, Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdes has told his Salvadoran counterpart Hector Miguel Dada Hierezi. Castillo added that efforts will be made in the future to strengthen those relations to benefit our peoples.

Guatemalan Foreign Ministry souces released the messages exchanged by Foreign Ministers Dada and Castillo in connection with the formation of the Salvadoran revolutionary government junta and its decision to appoint Dada as Salvadoran foreign minister.

Dada has told Castillo in his message that, in view of his appointment, he would appreciate all cooperation necessary to maintain the cordial relations which fortunately exist between Guatemala and El Salvador.

The message from the Salvadoran foreign minister indicates that the new Salvadoran Government is firmly determined to maintain a democratic government that will guarantee order and tranquillity in the country as well as due respect for the human rights of all Salvadorans.

The message also says that the revolutionary government junta wishes to maintain the most cordial relations with the distinguished government of your excellency. I reiterate to you my highest consideration and regards, Dada concludes.

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE DENIES PERMIT FOR DEMONSTRATION

PA260208 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2039 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE)--The Guatemala Department governor's office today refused to grant a permit for a protest demonstration which popular, union, peasant and student organizations were preparing for tomorrow afternoon. The demonstration was to protest the "constant kidnapings and assassinations of the people's leaders," including the disappearance of student Julio Cesar Cortez Mejia.

The governor's office said it denied the permit because organizers could not guarantee public order would be maintained.

The organizers are now calling their rank and file to emergency meetings to decide what steps should be taken.

PROTESTS OVER MISSING GROUP LEADERS INCREASE

PA251231 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1853 GMT 24 Oct 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 24 Oct (ACAN-EFE)--Student, labor, peasant and people's organizations today increased their protests over the disappearance and physical elimination of their leaders.

Among the most recent disappearances is Julio Cesar Cortez Mejia, a sociology senior at the National University, supposedly arrested by police on 20 October at the university.

Cortez Mejia was to have been the keynote speaker at the 35th anniversary of the October Revolution, but he never arrived.

Also missing are several labor and peasant leaders and leaders of people's organizations. Fifteen of them met violent deaths and their bodies, which were found along the roads, showed signs of torture.

In view of mounting protests, the groups are organizing a demonstration for Friday afternoon 26 October.

The opposition political parties which have representatives in Congress today voiced support for the demonstration.

The Christian Democrats issued a communique stating that "regrets should cease and the authorities charged with guarding the security of persons should be held responsible."

The National University affirms that Government and Social Planning Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz is personally responsible for the disappearance of Cortez Mejia. According to the labor unions and peasants, the protest also stems from "repeated violations of labor pacts."

Peasants from farms on the western plains and textile workers of the same area are also protesting and labor authorities are not hiding the fact that the area is on the verge of "bursting."

EGP MANIFESTO PUBLISHED AS KIDNAPING 'CONDITION'

PA260214 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2036 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 25 Oct (ACAN-EFE)--The family of kidnaped Guatemalan sportsman Jorge Raul Garcia Granados today fulfilled the third condition which the Poor Peoples Guerrilla Army (EGP) had set for his release. The third condition was to publish a long "international manifesto." The declaration was published today in the Guatemalan press. It had to also be published in Central America, the United States and Europe.

As a fourth condition, the EGP has demanded businessman Raul Garcia Granados, father of the kidnap victim, to pay an $8 million ransom which is still being negotiated.

In its international manifesto, the EGP refers to the crisis of capitalism in the United States, the role of social democracy, the Central American, Latin American and national situation and the prospects of the current regime. According to the guerrillas' declaration, their antigovernment struggle has found favorable conditions at a time when the United States is facing a deep and serious internal crisis and the socialist camp has purged and revitalized itself.

They also added that the political changes which have occurred in Central America have also contributed to the favorable conditions for their movement.

BRIEFS

AGRICULTURAL MISSION TO MALAYSIA--Agriculture Minister Edgar Ponciano Castillo is heading a Guatemalan delegation that left for Malaysia to negotiate technical assistance for our country. [Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 23 Oct 79 PA]

HONDURAS

OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS COMMERCIAL TIES WITH NICARAGUA

PA251852 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] The negotiations to broaden the bilateral commercial agreement between Honduras and Nicaragua will begin this weekend, an Economy Ministry official announced. The same source said that Honduras is going to try to include in the new commercial list the following products: soluble coffee, lumber, plastic articles and other manufactured goods, especially those made of metal.

The negotiations will last 3 days and whatever is agreed to at the meeting will have to be ratified by the economy ministers of the two countries. The general directors of economic integration will head the delegations. The bilateral agreement between Honduras and Nicaragua dates from 1972 and this is the first time that negotiations of this type are being carried out with the new Nicaraguan Government.

RADIO COMMENTARY HAILS MAJANO REMARKS ON PEACE TREATY

PA260058 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Col Arnoldo Majano, member of the revolutionary government junta which overthrew Salvadoran President Gen Carlos Humberto Romero, has made an important statement to the San Pedro Sula newspaper. It is of particular interest to our country. As everyone knows, anything that occurs in El Salvador greatly concerns us because, whether we like it or not, everything has an effect on the abnormal situation which Central America has experienced since (?June 1969). Therefore, the Salvadoran officer's statement regarding this country's situation and the peace talks with Honduras forcefully draws our attention.

According to the San Pedro Sula newspaper, Colonel Majano indicated, among other things, that to continue postponing the signing of a peace treaty would be to show [words indistinct] to our peoples. In other words, the Salvadoran ruler stressed that the Honduran and Salvadoran governments should no longer delay the signing of the long-awaited peace treaty [words indistinct] the peoples of both nations who fervently desire this.

The Salvadoran rulers' attitude is satisfactory and optimistic, particularly about the development of the mediation agreement signed by the two countries. Since the armed conflict with El Salvador, Honduras has shown its willingness to achieve a total and definite peace which would return to Central America the normalcy that it so greatly needs for its permanent struggle against underdevelopment.

The many obstacles which the various peace talks have confronted throughout a decade have not been caused by Honduras which has attended all meetings that have been held. In those meetings it has acted with sincerity and patriotism and in support of the international agreements which regulate the coexistence and mutual respect which must exist among the peoples and governments of the new world.

The failure of the Tlatelolco talks in which distinguished Mexican jurist Dr Antonio Gomez Robledo acted as coordinator, sowed pessimism since on that occasion [words indistinct] which would bring peace and normalcy to Central America. In view of that failure, optimism was destroyed and the mediation agreement between Honduras and El Salvador was needed to renew firm hopes for an overall and definite agreement which will finally end this depressing situation.

NICARAGUA

COURTS FOR TRYING SOMOZISTS TO CONVENE

PA241427 Paris AFP in Spanish 1941 GMT 23 Oct 79 PA

[Excerpts] Managua, 23 Oct (AFP)--Commander Bayardo Arce, member of the General Staff of the Sandinist People's Army, announced here today that the first nine emergency courts to try Somoza's followers will begin operating in Nicaragua next week.

In addition, Arce denied charges that Nicaragua is drifting toward communism or that it is being turned into a police state. Those who say we are drifting toward communism are only showing their complete ignorance, he said. The Sandinist commander asserted that anyone familiar with communism realizes that this is a stage because the Nicaraguan Armed Forces are being quartered and withdrawn from public view.

He also denied that travel to or from the country is being restricted, adding that citizens are simply being required to make their arrangements personally rather than through travel agencies, which were instruments of corruption during Somoza's era. More Nicaraguans are now entering and leaving the country than ever before, he noted.

For his part, Commander Tomas Borge defended the activities of the Sandinist Defense Committees now operating throughout the country. He said the committees are popular organizations which are entitled to keep watch to prevent a resurgence of Somozism.

SOMOZA TO BE FORMALLY CHARGED WITH CHAMORRO MURDER

PA251639 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Oct 79 PA

[Excerpts] The following is a report from the new NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY:

Former Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza Debayle and his son will be formally charged today with masterminding the assassination of Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, Criminal District Court Judge Victor Manuel Ordonez said today.

Ordonez said that Fausto Zelaya, former president of the Nicaraguan Housing Bank; Pedro Ramos, naturalized U.S. citizen of Cuban origin residing in Miami; Alesio Gutierrez, former Managua police commander; and Guillermo Rivas Cuadra, the judge who was initially in charge of trying the case, have also been designated as masterminds. Rivas is accused of fixing the case to conceal Somoza Potocarrero's guilt.

Ordonez said that of all the actual killers only Silvio Pena Rivas, Domingo Acevedo, Juan Ramon Acevedo and Concepcion Martinez remain in jail. The rest escaped on 19 July, the day of the Sandinist victory.

DISCHARGED SANDINISTS SURRENDER ARMS AFTER RALLY

PA251726 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Text] Managua--Some 500 Sandinist militiamen today surrendered their arms after staging a protest rally through the streets of Masaya, 30 km east of this capital.

The protest was originated by a large number of Sandinist fighters, some of them minors, who were angry at being discharged from the ranks of the Sandinist army.

JUNTA MEMBERS ON DEPORTED AMERICAN, COUNCIL OF STATE

PA250234 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Oct 79 PA

[Text] Members of the government junta made important statements today during a news conference. Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, Commander Daniel Ortega and Engineer Alfonso Robelo participated in the conference.

Among the most important topics announced were the following: Commander Daniel Ortega denounced the imperialist maneuvers of the U.S. Booth Company, which is developing our marine resources. An official of the company, a partner of Somoza, was caught sending arms to the northern border. He reportedly also participated in the Somozist bombings of the Atlantic coast. The individual is Raymund Bartlett, who was arrested, indicted by the Interior Ministry, and subsequently sent to the U.S. Embassy for deportation.

It was announced that on 4 May, day of national dignity, the Council of State will be installed in office. It will be structured in such a way as to allow for true representation of opposing groups in the present political or national situation, particularly workers and peasants.

It was officially announced that the remains of Commander Carlos Fonseca Amador, founder of the Sandinist Front, have been found and will be buried on 8 November, the anniversary of his death. The remains of Julian Roque Cuadra have also been found.

It was reported that the INTER-AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION had issued a pronouncement expressing concern over freedom of the press in our country. This is somewhat strange, since Nicaragua's present press laws were prepared by the newsmen themselves.

ORTEGA VISITS BLUEFIELDS, COMMENTS ON COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES

PA251310 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Oct 79 PA

[Text] Cmdr Daniel Ortega Saavedra, a member of our national government junta, spent 3 days in the City of Bluefields to personally investigate the problems of that city. Atabal Sandinista [name of newscast] reporter Yadira Bastodano, who was there, filed this report:

The cases of harassment in various cities such as Managua and Carazo and on the morning of 17 October in the port of Bluefields are the product of actions by such groups as the treacherous bourgeoisie, Somozist guards and ultraleftists who wish to damage our revolutionary process, said Daniel Ortega Saavedra, member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] and the Government of National Reconstruction.

These words were uttered before thousands of brothers of the coast who filled the square outside the Carlos Fonseca Amador Municipal Palace in Bluefields a few hours after a group of counterrevolutionaries fired indiscriminately against militiamen on guard duty there. Companero Juan Dixon was wounded. This action, which aims to upset Bluefields and its inhabitants who are totally engaged in the task of reconstruction, produced a quick mobilization of the special forces under the command of guerrilla commander William Ramirez. He is under orders to train militiamen at this port to repel with sufficient force any other attempt at harassment.

Commander Ortega Saavedra, addressing the crowd that had come to reiterate their support of our present government and the national leadership of the FSLN, said the perpetrators of this harassment, who have already been defined as the treacherous rich, the Somozist guards and the ultraleftists, could at any moment cause the death of any of the members of the Government of National Reconstruction or the national leadership. However, dying does not worry them because the revolution is assured, especially by the youth, which struggled relentlessly to overthrow the tyrant Somoza.

Therefore, he added, these criminal acts could affect our lives. But this does not mean that they are going to kill the popular Sandinist revolution. Indeed, this revolution continues and all Nicaraguans are willing to defend and preserve it because that is why we fought and why thousands and thousands of lives were offered.

Commander Ortega stressed the work that should be carried out by the Sandinist Defense Committee [CDS] both in Bluefields and in the rest of the nation. He said that many members are being termed ears [orejas] and frogs [sapos] but anyone who is guarding against the persons who want to continue being executioneers and exploiters of our workers, peasants and students cannot be termed ears or frogs.

Here is a portion of Cmdr Daniel Ortega Saavedra's speech to the people of Bluefields in which he refers to the forthcoming visit of the members of the Government of National Reconstruction and several members of the cabinet:

[Begin recording] Here we are in the name of the national leadership of the FSLN, the leading guide of this revolution. We are here in the name of the Government of National Reconstruction, the expression of this revolution.

We are giving all our support to the people of Bluefields, giving all out support to the youth of Bluefields, the students of Bluefields, the peasants of Bluefields, the workers of Bluefields and the fishermen of Bluefields.

Less than 2 hours after the cowardly attack on this zone, the special forces of the FSLN were here under the command of guerrilla commander William Ramirez to fight those cowards who are still holding rifles. [applause] [end recording]

People, army unity!

Free fatherland or death!

BRIEFS

CUBAN BALLET PERFORMANCE--It was announced here that the well-known Alicia Alonso and the Cuban National Ballet will perform in the Ruben Dario Theater in this capital in mid-November. In addition, the Escambray Theater of Cuba will also be presented in November. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 23 Oct 79 PA]

NEW BELGIAN AMBASSADOR--Mr Christian de Saint Hubert, new Belgian ambassador to Nicaragua, presented his credentials yesterday to the members of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua. [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 17 Oct 79 p 5 PA-

NEW PERUVIAN AMBASSADOR--Augusto Dammert Leon, Peruvian ambassador to Nicaragua, has presented his credentials to the members of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua. [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 17 Oct 79 p 7 PA]

CHINANDEGA LABOR COMMITTEE--The Executive Committee of the Sandinist Workers Central of Chinandega has been elected. The assembly ratified the previous election of the superior council of the Sandinist Workers Central. The executive committee is made up of 13 delegates. Its secretary general is Felix Pedro Rojas. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 22 Oct 79 PA]

GENERAL STAFFS COORDINATOR--Chinandega--The members of the departmental political committee of Chinandega reported that the Sandinist National Liberation Front national leadership on 12 October appointed Companera Dora Maria Tellez to the post of western coordinator of the General Staffs of Leon and Chinandega. [Text] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 19 Oct 79 p 5 PA]

AMBASSADOR TO UN WARNS ABOUT U.S. REACTIONARIES' ACTIONS

FL251326 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 79 FL

[Text] At the United Nations Cuba has warned about the attempts of reactionary forces in the United States and other Western nations to drag the world once more into cold war and military tensions. Cuban Ambassador to the United Nations Carlos Lechuga, without mentioning names, denounced Western efforts to install in Europe new types of offensive arms and the obstacles placed in the United States to the signing of the SALT II treaties.

Appeals for peace are made from public tribunes but the intentions of installing new offensive arms in areas of tension are renewed or of producing arms of mass destruction are announced. These announcements, he affirmed, are made with joy and excitement as if this new move of terror would lead to sane objectives. Referring to the SALT II treaties between the United States and the Soviet Union, he said that at a time when everybody was expecting a definitive result, we find that the announcement has nearly dissolved in the corrosive acid of the reactionary forces in one of the signatory countries.

In his speech before the UN Security Council, Carlos Lechuga noted that instead of reducing military expenses, the budgets for arms continue to increase as an inhuman response to the millions of the world poor who lack the most essential needs.

MPSP EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR CASTRO'S UN SPEECH

FL250228 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 25 Oct 79 FL

[Text] The Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of Peoples [MPSP] has sent a letter of support to our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro on the occasion of his historic speech at the United Nations. The text of the document states that the MPSP expressed its warmest backing of the magnificent speech made by Fidel at the 34th UN General Assembly. The message states that the speech is characterized by the objectivity of his statements and the worthy and honest explanation of his proposals. It continues by stressing that therefore the aforementioned speech is a document for history pointing to the only path by which to achieve true peace for mankind. The MPSP emphasizes that the speech made by Fidel at the United Nations expresses the pain, concern and hope of all mankind. It also clearly points to the real culprits--imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid, racism and Zionism. Lastly the MPSP states that the organization will work so that all progressive and peaceloving forces will join the call made by Fidel--let us say good-bye to weapons and let us civilly dedicate ourselves to the pressing problems of our era.

INDUSTRY MINISTER ENDS WORKING VISIT TO ETHIOPIA

FL251349 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Oct 79 FL

[Text] Cuba's Chemical Industry Minister Antonio Esquivel has ended a working visit to Ethiopia after signing a document which outlines the results of the talks with his Ethiopian hosts. Together with Ethiopian Mines, Energy and Water Resources Minister Tekeze Shoa-Aytenfesu [as received], Esquivel signed a memorandum containing the topics discussed during the talks held by the two delegations, mainly the one dealing with Cuban assistance and cooperation.

The document includes the Ethiopian request for Cuban assistance and cooperation in the reorganization of Ethiopia's Mines, Energy and Water Resources Ministry in accordance with talks held by Cuba's Councils of State and Ministers President and Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of that African sister nation.

BARBADOS

ADAMS CLARIFIES FORDE'S HUMAN RIGHTS STATEMENT

FL251440 Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Oct 79 p 3 FL

[Excerpt] Roseau, Dominica, Saturday (CANA)--Barbados' prime minister, Mr. Tom Adams, yesterday explained a statement earlier this week by his foriegn minister, Mr. Henry Forde on human rights, and said his government was not accusing the Grenada Government of such violations.

Mr. Henry Forde had said that Cuba, Brenada and Haiti were holding political prisoners in their jails and were denying the right to dissent and to form political parties.

Speaking to reporters here Friday after an official one-day visit, Mr. Adams said that his government was merely pointing out the principles on which all peoples of the world were expected to function properly.

He said that his government was not in the business of accusing people or countries, but he added that in fact his government was being the target of criticism from many regional governments.

"Our government is not in the accusing business. Anyway, they accuse our government. I see officials of the Grenada Government accusing our government of getting five million dollars from the Americans; accusing our government of taking instructions from the Americans; of not doing nothing [as received] with regards to the Cubana crash outside Barbados," Mr. Adams said.

Mr. Adams said that the recent criticism of the Grenada Government by his foreign minister over the closing down of the TORCHLIGHT newspaper, as well as the detention of some political prisoners should not be seen as a war of words between the two countries.

GRENADA

GOVERNMENT-OWNED NEWSPAPER BACK IN OPERATION

FL251435 Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 21 Oct 79 p 2 FL

[Text] St. Georges, Grenada, Oct. 20 (CANA)--Exactly one week after the closure of the TORCHLIGHT newspaper, the FREE WEST INDIAN a government-owned publication reappeared on the streets after a lapse of several weeks.

The paper, previously owned and controlled by the Gairy government, resumed publication shortly after the People's Revolutionary Government came to power on March 13. Publication had been suspended for some weeks while work was done by the government on reconditioning the printing operations.

The reappearance of the FREE WEST INDIAN--hitherto known as the WEST INDIAN--now means that the Government of Grenada is publishing the only local newspaper medium in the country.

JAMAICA

GOVERNOR GENERAL STRESSES FRIENDSHIP WITH U.S.

FL251445 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 23 Oct 79 p 15 FL

[Excerpts] Governor-General the Most Hon. Florizel Glasspole, said on Saturday night that the relationship between Jamaica and the United States has been established on a firm foundation "that must not be shattered under any circumstances whatsoever."

Jamaica's friends "are to be found in the Western democracies--and more so in the United States of America."

Mr. Glasspole said this while addressing the International Club dinner in celebration of United Nations Day, at the Four Seasons Hotel.

Paying tribute to those members of the club who had withstood "the migration bug," the governor-general referred to the international character of the club and added that "internationalism" was one of the bulwarks of Jamaican foreign policy.

"We in Jamaica have a long and well-established relationship with the American nation and the American people. And whatever may be the problems, whatever may be the difficulties, that relationship is established on a firm foundation that must not be shattered under any circumstances whatsoever," he said to loud applause.

"The Caribbean area as a whole has been passing through a difficult time at this moment. We are sure we shall emerge from these difficulties. We are sure who are our friends--and I am talking of Jamaica. We are sure who are Jamaica's friends, and they are to be found in the Western democracies and more so in the United States of America."

FINANCE MINISTER REPORTS ON IMF NEGOTIATIONS

FL252204 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2130 GMT 25 Oct 79 FL

[Text] Finance Minister Eric Bell has said that talks which were opened Monday with a team of IMF officials currently in Jamaica have been producing and proceeding satisfactorily. The 3-man IMF team is in the island to begin data collection and review of the economy along with senior government officers including the finance minister. The team is assessing Jamaica's overall economic performance and the extended fund facility agreement with the IMF. Mr Bell told JBC [Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation] News that the team would leave in about another week for consultation at the headquarters in Washington before returning to Jamaica for further discussions. [Words indistinct] is expected to make a full report to the IMF Board in December at about the same time as the report to the economic performance criteria [words indistinct]. Mr Bell said he wouldn't want to project the outcome of either these assessments as we were still some distance away from December and there were still many factors to be taken into consideration in the time remaining.

GOVERNMENT SEEKS TALKS TO EASE POLITICAL TENSION

FL251430 Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English 21 Oct 79 pp 1, 2 FL

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Michael Manley has authorized the deputy prime minister, the Hon. P.J. Patterson and other members of his government to pursue talks with the opposition, aimed at de-escalating the present political tensions, during his absence from the island.

Mr. Manley, who left from Sangster International Airport, Montego Bay, yesterday afternoon on his way to Libya and Iraq, issued a statement shortly before his departure. It said:

"The government has invited the opposition to commence talks aimed at de-escalating present political tensions. No reply has been received on the grounds that the leader of the opposition is off the island till the weekend.

"During my absence, the acting prime minister, the Hon. P.J. Patterson, and the government are fully authorized to pursue this initiative. It is very much in the national interest that these discussions commence as soon as possible."

The invitation to the opposition was issued by Mr. Manley after the disturbances at the National Heroes' Park on Monday.

REPORTAGE ON PRIME MINISTER MANLEY VISIT TO IRAQ

For Iraqi reportage on the visit of Prime Minister Michael Manley to Iraq see the Iraq section of the 25 October Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

ST VINCENT

OPPOSITION TO ARMED GUARDS FOR VISIT OF GRENADA PRIME MINISTER

FL251949 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1930 GMT 25 Oct 79 FL

[Text] A government spokesman in St Vincent says his country has not given any permission for Grenada to fly in heavily armed guards to protect Prime Minister Bishop who is due in Kingston today. The Grenadian prime minister will be attending celebrations marking the island's independence from Britain.

The government spokesman who said he wished to remain anonymous was commenting on a statement by the opposition People's Political Party expressing concern about possible public demonstrations if Mr Bishop was accompanied by armed guards.

The St Vincentian administration is concerned about alleged human rights violations in neighboring Grenada and the attitude of the People's Revolutionary Government to the press. Deputy Prime Minister (Hudson Tanes) said that the present relations between both countries were cool but diplomatically cordial.

Jamaica is being represented at the independence celebrations by the Minister of Local Government Ralph Brown.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

HUMAN RIGHTS BUREAU URGES DEMOCRATIC RULE IN GRENADA

FL291942 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1930 GMT 24 Oct 79 FL

[Text] Trinidad and Tobago's Bureau on Human Rights has written to the People's Revolutionary Government [PRG] of Grenada calling for a return to democratic rule in that island. According to the letter, promises by Prime Minister Maurice Bishop just after the popular uprising which toppled dictator Eric Gairy had not yet been kept. These included the fact that a date for general elections has not yet been set. The letter further charges that the closure of the TORCHLIGHT newspaper and the takeover of the Coca-Cola Bottling Company were what was termed naked violations of human rights and freedom of expression. The PRG came to power in a popular revolution on March 13th.

EDUCATION-CULTURE MINISTER MURDERED, INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY

FL251650 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1630 GMT 25 Oct 79 FL

[Text] Guyana's Education, Social Development and Culture Minister Vincent Teekah was shot and killed at about midnight last night a few miles south of Georgetown.

Only last week, Mr Teekah chaired the highly successful third conference of education ministers of the Caribbean Community and a 1-day session of ministers from territories participating in the Caribbean Examinations Council. He was due to hold a midmorning press conference today to discuss the outcome of the series of talks in the Guyanese capital.

Mr Teekah quit the opposition People's Progressive Party a few years ago to join the ruling People's National Congress.

Little details are so far available as to the circumstances of last night's tragedy as the incident is still being investigated. No arrests have yet been made.

Motive Unknown

PA252230 Paris AFP in Spanish 1924 GMT 25 Oct 79 PA

[Excerpts] Georgetown, 25 Oct (AFP)--More than 200 of the country's best investigators are looking for the assassin or assassins of Education, Social Development and Culture Minister Vincent Teekah, who was shot to death last night in the southern part of the capital. So far no political party or group has claimed credit for the assassination.

According to observers, the assassination of Minister Teekah is very significant. Teekah was one of the most important critics of the pro-Soviet People's Progressive Party after he withdrew from its ranks a few years ago to join the ruling People's National Congress, which is led by Prime Minister Linden Forbes Burnham.

WPA FIRE-BOMBING CASE POSTPONED 24 HOURS

FL252013 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1930 GMT 25 Oct 79 FL

[Excerpt] Continued hearing of a joint arson charge against three members of the Working People's Alliance in Guyana was put off for 24 hours today amid expressions of concern for the safety of defense lawyers and the accused.

The principal magistrate returned the case after listening to a defense application for a police search to be instituted on all men in the court room in the interest of protecting the lives of the accused and their lawyers. The accused are noted historian Walter Rodney, Dr Rupert Roopnarine and Dr Omawale. Today's proceedings left unresolved the issue raised yesterday as to whether the case should be tried by a magistrate or before a judge and jury.